GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:200
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2007
CHILD OBESITY
Reddy Shri Mekapati Rajamohan;Singh Shri Sugrib

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an alarming rise in the incidence of child obesity, especially among the school going children in the country and most of such children also suffer from liver disorders;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to set up any Committee to identify the reasons for the same;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check obesity amongst children?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a)to(d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 200 FOR 28TH NOVEMBER, 2007

According to Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), the overall cross sectional study suggests an increase in the prevalence of obesity. A cross sectional study undertaken in Delhi Schools showed that the prevalence rate of overweight and obese children is 29% this is an increase from previous studies which showed it as 16% (2002-04, adolescents). The reasons attributed to the rising prevalence of over-weight and obesity include reduced level of physical activity/increase in sedentary life as also increased consumption of calorie dense nutrient deficient food items. Since creating awareness through information, educational and communication is the main strategy to tackle this issue, this component has been incorporated in the proposed National Programme for Control of Diabetes and Cardiovascular Diseases (CVD). School health programme, which would among others deal with healthy life style, is also an integral part of National Rural Health Mission.